

Table 23. Infant mortality rates, fetal mortality rates, and perinatal mortality rates, according to race: United States, selected years 1950–96

[Data are based on the National Vital Statistics System]

Race and year	Neonatal ¹				Fetal mortality rate ²	Late fetal mortality rate ³	Perinatal mortality rate ⁴
	Infant ¹	Under 28 days	Under 7 days	Postneonatal ¹			
All races	Deaths per 1,000 live births						
1950 ⁵	29.2	20.5	17.8	8.7	18.4	14.9	32.5
1960 ⁵	26.0	18.7	16.7	7.3	15.8	12.1	28.6
1970	20.0	15.1	13.6	4.9	14.0	9.5	23.0
1980	12.6	8.5	7.1	4.1	9.1	6.2	13.2
1985	10.6	7.0	5.8	3.7	7.8	4.9	10.7
1988	10.0	6.3	5.2	3.6	7.5	4.5	9.7
1989	9.8	6.2	5.1	3.6	7.5	4.5	9.6
1990	9.2	5.8	4.8	3.4	7.5	4.3	9.1
1991	8.9	5.6	4.6	3.4	7.3	4.1	8.7
1992	8.5	5.4	4.4	3.1	7.4	4.1	8.5
1993	8.4	5.3	4.3	3.1	7.1	3.8	8.1
1994	8.0	5.1	4.2	2.9	7.0	3.7	7.9
1995	7.6	4.9	4.0	2.7	7.0	3.6	7.6
1996	7.3	4.8	3.8	2.5	6.9	3.6	7.4
Race of child: ⁶ White							
1950 ⁵	26.8	19.4	17.1	7.4	16.6	13.3	30.1
1960 ⁵	22.9	17.2	15.6	5.7	13.9	10.8	26.2
1970	17.8	13.8	12.5	4.0	12.3	8.6	21.0
1980	11.0	7.5	6.2	3.5	8.1	5.7	11.9
Race of mother: ⁷ White							
1980	10.9	7.4	6.1	3.5	8.1	5.7	11.8
1985	9.2	6.0	5.0	3.2	6.9	4.5	9.5
1988	8.4	5.3	4.3	3.1	6.4	4.0	8.3
1989	8.1	5.1	4.2	2.9	6.4	4.0	8.2
1990	7.6	4.8	3.9	2.8	6.4	3.8	7.7
1991	7.3	4.5	3.7	2.8	6.2	3.7	7.4
1992	6.9	4.3	3.5	2.6	6.2	3.7	7.2
1993	6.8	4.3	3.5	2.5	6.1	3.4	6.9
1994	6.6	4.2	3.4	2.4	6.0	3.3	6.7
1995	6.3	4.1	3.3	2.2	5.9	3.3	6.5
1996	6.1	4.0	3.2	2.1	5.9	3.3	6.4
Race of child: ⁶ Black							
1950 ⁵	43.9	27.8	23.0	16.1	32.1	---	---
1960 ⁵	44.3	27.8	23.7	16.5	---	---	---
1970	32.6	22.8	20.3	9.9	23.2	---	34.5
1980	21.4	14.1	11.9	7.3	14.4	8.9	20.7
Race of mother: ⁷ Black							
1980	22.2	14.6	12.3	7.6	14.7	9.1	21.3
1985	19.0	12.6	10.8	6.4	12.8	7.2	17.9
1988	18.5	12.1	10.3	6.5	13.0	6.9	17.1
1989	18.6	11.9	10.1	6.7	13.1	6.8	16.8
1990	18.0	11.6	9.7	6.4	13.3	6.7	16.4
1991	17.6	11.2	9.4	6.3	12.8	6.4	15.7
1992	16.8	10.8	9.0	6.0	13.3	6.4	15.4
1993	16.5	10.7	9.0	5.8	12.8	5.8	14.7
1994	15.8	10.2	8.6	5.6	12.5	5.8	14.3
1995	15.1	9.8	8.2	5.3	12.7	5.7	13.8
1996	14.7	9.6	7.8	5.1	12.5	5.5	13.3

--- Data not available.

¹Infant (under 1 year of age), neonatal (under 28 days), early neonatal (under 7 days), and postneonatal (28–365 days).

²Number of fetal deaths of 20 weeks or more gestation per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths.

³Number of fetal deaths of 28 weeks or more gestation per 1,000 live births plus late fetal deaths.

⁴Number of late fetal deaths plus infant deaths within 7 days of birth per 1,000 live births plus late fetal deaths.

⁵Includes births and deaths of persons who were not residents of the 50 States and the District of Columbia.

⁶Infant deaths are tabulated by race of decedent; live births and fetal deaths are tabulated by race of child (see [Appendix II, Race](#)).

⁷Infant deaths are tabulated by race of decedent; fetal deaths and live births are tabulated by race of mother (see [Appendix II, Race](#)).

NOTES: Infant mortality rates in this table are based on infant deaths from the mortality file (numerator) and live births from the natality file (denominator). Inconsistencies in reporting race for the same infant between the birth and death certificate can result in underestimated infant mortality rates for races other than white or black. Infant mortality rates for minority population groups are available from the national linked files of live births and infant deaths and are presented in tables 20–22.

SOURCES: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics: *Vital statistics of the United States, vol. II, mortality, part A*, for data years 1950–96. Public Health Service. Washington. U.S. Government Printing Office; Peters KD, Kochanek KD, Murphy SL. Report of final mortality statistics, 1996. Monthly vital statistics report; vol 45. Hyattsville, Maryland: 1998; and data computed by the Division of Health and Utilization Analysis from data compiled by the Division of Vital Statistics.